DOH-PINELLAS OFFERS NO-COST HPV CANCER AND EDUCATION TRAINING

Florida HEALTH Pinellas County

CONTACT:

Audrey Stasko, Public Information Specialist Audrey.Stasko@FLHealth.gov (727) 824-6900 ext. 4575 (media only)

Community health professionals are encouraged to attend the "Ask Me About HPV! HPV Ambassador Cancer Education and Ambassador Training" at the Florida Department of Health in Pinellas County (DOH-Pinellas) St. Petersburg location in December and January.

Participants will learn the basics of the Human papillomavirus (HPV), how to counter common arguments against the vaccine and how to approach parents about the cancer-prevention vaccine.

The training sessions are open to the public and provided at no cost on these dates:

- 10 AM to noon, Wednesday, Dec. 5, at DOH-Pinellas in St. Petersburg: 205 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. St., N. (second floor in room 109-A).
- 1:30 to 3:30 PM, Tuesday, Jan. 8, at DOH-Pinellas in St. Petersburg: 205 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. St., N. (second floor in room 109-A).



Upon completion, participants will become an HPV Ambassador, a healthcare professional/liaison who is trained to educate on the importance of the HPV vaccine in preventing related cancers and diseases. The session offers 1.0 continuing medical education credit from the Florida Area Health Educations Centers (AHEC) Network. To register for the December session, visit https://askmeabouthpv18.eventbrite.com. To register for the January date, visit https://askmeabouthpv19.eventbrite.com.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), HPV causes over 33,700 cases of cancer in men and women every year in the U.S. HPV vaccination can prevent over 90 percent (31,200) of these cancers from ever developing by preventing the infections that cause those cancers.

CDC recommends two doses of HPV vaccination at ages 11-12 to protect against cancers caused by HPV infections.

For more information about HPV, visit www.cdc.gov/hpv/.

For more information about the HPV Ambassador Program, visit http://pinellas.floridahealth.gov/programs-and-services/clinical-and-nutrition-services/immunizations/hpv.html.

For information about DOH-Pinellas, go to www.PinellasHealth.com or follow us on Twitter @HealthyPinellas.

-end-

About the Florida Department of Health

The department, nationally accredited by the <u>Public Health Accreditation Board</u>, works to protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts.

Follow us on Twitter at <u>@HealthyFla</u> and on <u>Facebook</u>. For more information about the Florida Department of Health please visit <u>www.FloridaHealth.gov</u>.